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Sent: Fri 1/18/2013 10:55:18 AM
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January 18, 2013

Latest News

EPA Plans Talks With Cities On Water Costs But Resists Call For Overhaul

EPA is slated to launch talks with mayors and other municipal entities over how it determines whether cities can afford infrastructure upgrades needed to comply with combined sewer overflows (CSOs) requirements, but the agency appears to have rejected calls from municipal officials to overhaul its 1997 policy for making the determinations.

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Researchers Push EPA Focus On Behavior Studies To Inform Future NAAQS

Air quality researchers are urging EPA to place greater emphasis on studying the public's behavior and how that affects criteria pollutants to inform future national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS), arguing that as standards become tighter and pollution drops such behavior may be a better guide for how to set the NAAQS.

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Environmentalists Urge Administration To Expand Keystone's GHG Review

Environmentalists are urging the Obama administration to expand the scope of the greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts it is reviewing for a decision on whether to permit the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline, saying GHGs from petroleum coke should be included as they would significantly boost the project's GHGs and justify denying the permit.

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Under GOP Pressure, CRS Said To Weigh Changes To Coal Ash Report

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) has told lawmakers supporting a bill that would give states, not EPA, primacy over coal ash disposal that it will update its recent report that raised questions about the feasibility and level of protection provided by the legislation after congressional Republicans pressured the service to make changes.

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Natural Gas Infrastructure Firm Seeks End To EPA Auto Rule Fuel Mandate

A natural gas vehicle (NGV) infrastructure firm is urging EPA to revise its light duty vehicle greenhouse gas rule to eliminate a requirement for NGVs to use twice the amount of natural gas compared to gasoline in order to win credit under the rule, arguing that the mandate will discourage investments in cleaner transport such as NGVs.

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EPA IG Eyes Host Of Key Program Reviews In Plan For 2013 Evaluations

EPA's Inspector General (IG) is planning to launch a host of evaluations into key agency programs as part of its 2013 agenda, which broadly aims to help EPA address management challenges including a lack of workforce planning, limited cybersecurity defenses and inconsistent oversight of delegation of federal programs to states.

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GOP Faults Delayed EPA Fracking Study

Republican senators are criticizing EPA for again delaying its draft study linking groundwater contamination in Wyoming to hydraulic fracturing fluids, saying the agency's decision to . . .

Court Rejects Gold Mine MACT Suit Rehearing

A federal appeals court has denied environmentalists' requests for rehearing of its ruling upholding EPA's 2011 air toxics standard for the gold mining sector, a . . .

Arguments Set In Biomass GHG Case

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has scheduled April 8 oral arguments to hear environmentalists'

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